VERMONT INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS 10 YEAR PLAN

TO

END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

VICH TABLE OF CONTENT/OVERVIEW

PRIORITY ONE: STAY ATTENTIVE TO INFLUENCES AND AFFECTS OF NEW LEGISLATION,

POLICIES AND PROGRAM CHANGES THAT MAYPRECIPITATE HOMELESSNESS, REDUCE RESOURCES REQUIRED TO ADDRESS

HOMELESSNESS OR OTHERWISE EXACERBATE THE HOMELESS CONDITION

IN VERMONT. PAGES 1-2

• STRATEGY 1.1: ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT SYSTEMS AND INITIATIVES TO MITIGATE SUCH INFLUENCES AND RESPOND TO NATURAL OR OTHER DISASTROUS EVENTS THAT MAY RESULT IN SUDDEN AND SUBSTANTIAL HOMELESSNESS PG. 1

1. **ACTION STEP:** RESPOND TO PROPOSED SECTION 8 CUTS

• STRATEGY 1.2: Create and Maintain Housing Stock Pg. 2

1. **ACTION STEP:** CREATE NEEDED UNITS BY 2015 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VERMONT STATEWIDE HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

PRIORITY TWO: PREVENT HOMELESSNESS PAGES 3-13

- Strategy 2.1: Develop effective discharge planning strategies pg. 3-4
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** MEET WITH DISCHARGE ENTITIES TO DETERMINE THEIR DISCHARGE POLICY AND EDUCATE THEM ABOUT OUR CHARGE, EXPLORE STRATEGY OF RECUPERATIVE BEDS, HEALTH CARE COST AVOIDANCE, AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS SUCH THAT DISCHARGE PLANS INCLUDE HEALTHCARE, EMPLOYMENT, AND HOUSING COVERAGE
- **STRATEGY 2.2:** DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO MAINTAIN AND PREVENT LOSS OF HOUS ING AND SERVICES PG.4-9
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** CREATE FUND TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS AND COUPLES TO PREVENT CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS
 - 3. **ACTION STEP:** Provide Post-Purchase Counseling
 - 4. **ACTION STEP:** DEVELOP SCATTERED SITE REHAB AND RENOVATION

- 5. **ACTION STEP:** PROMOTE AND ENHANCE CREDIT REPAIR AND < AINTENANCE SERVICES
- 6. **ACTION STEP:** EXPAND ON EXISTING OUT-POSTING MODELS
- 7. **ACTION STEP:** SUPPORT VERMONT INITIATIVE FOR RESPONSIBLE LENDING
- 8. **ACTION STEP:** INCREASE SSI APPLICATION SUCCESS RATE; EXPEDITE APPEALS PROCESS; UTILIZE PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY TO REDUCE CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS
- 9. **ACTION STEP:** OPEN BACK RENT PROGRAM TO SINGLE ADULTS WITH CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS OR DISABILITY
- 10. **ACTION STEP:** INVESTIGATE EXPANSION OF EMPLOYER ASSISTED HOUSING PROGRAM
- STRATEGY 2.3: DEVELOP HOUSING STABILIZATION PG. 9-11
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** DEVELOP FURTHER STRATEGIES FOR STREET-TO-HOME COUNSELING FOR SECURING AND MAINTAINING A HOME
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** DEVELOP TENANT/LANDLORD MEDIATION POLICY AND STRATEGIES
 - 3. **ACTION STEP:** DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO PREVENT MOBILE HOME PARK CLOSURES
- **STRATEGY 2.4:** MAINTAIN CONTINUITY OF EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS PG. 11-13
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** IMPLEMENT MCKINNEY VENTO LAW AS AMENDED UNDER "NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND"
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** BUILD CAPACITY TO EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH TO BE EDUCATED ON CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS AND TO BE INVOLVED IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND DECISION MAKING

PRIORITY THREE: EXPAND AND MAXIMIZE HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PAGES 14-19

- **STRATEGY 3.1:** DEVELOP CAPACITY TO SECURE AND UTILIZE ALTERNATIVE RESOURCES PG. 14-15
 - 1. ACTION STEP: IDENTIFY CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION FUNDING SOURCES

- 2. **ACTION STEP:** ASK VERMONT ALLIANCE OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (VANPO) TO PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR HOMELESS ASSISTANCE AGENCIES
- STRATEGY 3.2: IDENTIFY AND DISSEMINATE BEST PRACTICES FOR HOUSING AND SERVICE DELIVERY PG. 15-17
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** CREATE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF 4.2, Evaluate existing systems for effectiveness
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** CREATE ANNUAL BEST PRACTICE AWARD PROCESS, INCLUDING MONETARY PRIZE
 - 3. **ACTION STEP:** LOOK AT OTHER STATES BEST PRACTICES
- STRATEGY 3.3: INVEST IN EFFECTIVE SYSTEMS: "WHAT WORKS" PG. 17
 - 1. ACTION STEP: Create "Models" Document and Disseminate to Funders
- STRATEGY 3.4: ENCOURAGE NEW AND CREATIVE MODELS THROUGH INCENTIVES PG. 18
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** ENCOURAGE NEW APPROACHES TO ENDING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS THROUGH USE OF "HOLD HARMLESS" PILOT PROGRAMS
- STRATEGY 3.5: CREATE PARTNERSHIPS AMONG EXISTING HOUSING PROVIDERS AND SERVICE DELIVERY PROVIDERS PG. 18-19
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** ENCOURAGE JOINT MEETING DAY OF VERMONT AFFORDABLE HOUSING COALITION (VAHC) AND VERMONT COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS (VCEH)
- **STRATEGY 3.6:** INVEST IN CORE CAPACITY OF EXISTING SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE PG. 19
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** CREATE STRATEGIES TO INCREASE CAPACITY FOR CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS SERVICES BY CAPTURING SAVINGS FROM UNNECESSARY USE OF HIGH COST RESOURCES

PRIORITY FOUR: IMPLEMENT CROSS-SYSTEM CHANGE FOR PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT,
IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION PAGES 20-31

• **STRATEGY 4.1:** COLLECT COMPREHENSIVE DATA FOR SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF HOUSING AND SERVICES TO GUIDE STATEWIDE DECISION MAKING PG. 20-21

- 1. **ACTION STEP:** IDENTIFY DATA SOURCES, INTEGRATE COLLECTION EFFORTS, DETERMINE WHAT WE WANT TO LEARN FROM THE DATA AND THEN ANALYZE THE DATA TO GUIDE STATEWIDE DECISION MAKING
- 2. **ACTION STEP:** REPORT POINT-IN-TIME ANALYSIS RESULTS TO MUNICIPALITIES
- Strategy 4.2: Evaluate Existing Systems for Effectiveness pg. 21-22
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** PROCESS, EVALUATE AND IMPLEMENT HOMELESS MANAGEMENT TOOLS
- **STRATEGY 4.3:** IDENTIFY EXISTING PLANNING EFFORTS TO INTEGRATE STRATEGIES TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS PG. 22-23
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** Canvas Cabinet-Level Agency Planning Efforts
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** Canvas Regional Planning Partnerships (AHS)
- **STRATEGY 4.4:** MAXIMIZE USE OF MAINSTREAM AND OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES TO EXPAND AND ENHANCE SERVICES TO THE CHRONIC HOMELESS PG. 23-26
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** PURSUE PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** CREATE MATRIX INVENTORY OF EXISTING HOUSING FUNDING SOURCES
 - 3. **ACTION STEP:** MAXIMIZE GRANT WRITING EFFORTS AND OPPORTUNITIES
 - 4. **ACTION STEP:** CONFIRM RANGE OF MEDICAID SERVICES, SSI, AND EXPLORE OTHER RELATED POSSIBLE SERVICES
 - 5. **ACTION STEP:** CONFIRM RANGE OF TANF SERVICES
- STRATEGY 4.5: IDENTIFY AND COLLABORATE WITH STATEWIDE, REGIONAL, AND LOCAL HOUSING AND SERVICE PARTNERS PG. 27-29
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** CONDUCT STATEWIDE CONFERENCE OF HOUSING AND SERVICE PROVIDERS
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** USE FUNDING MECHANISMS TO ENSURE VIABLE PARTNERSHIPS AMONG HOUSING AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

- 3. **ACTION STEP:** PROVIDE POLICY STATEMENT TO CONSOLIDATED PLAN ADVISORY GROUP
- **STRATEGY 4.6:** IDENTIFY MACRO-ISSUES THAT AFFECT CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS PG.29-30
 - 1. ACTION STEP: CREATE SUMMARY OF EXISTING DATA
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** INVESTIGATE AND TRACK MEDICAID PREMIUM PAYMENTS AND BENEFIT LOSS
- STRATEGY 4.7: IDENTIFY OTHER PARTNERS AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND RESOURCES FOR VERMONT INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS PG. 30-31
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** AFFIRM VICH ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, LEADERSHIP, AND STAFFING
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** Create Contact List of Interested Parties

PRIORITY FIVE: DEVELOP AND CONDUCT AN OUTREACH AND PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN PAGES 32-40

- STRATEGY 5.1: CREATE AWARENESS ON MACRO-ECONOMIC ISSUES STATEWIDE PG. 32
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** DEVELOP MARKETING PIECE TO SUPPLEMENT HOUSING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AND FAIR HOUSING COALITION
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** DEVELOP POLICY BRIEF TO EDUCATE LEGISLATORS TO INCLUDE FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS
- STRATEGY 5.2: CAPTURE MORE RESOURCES PG. 33-34
 - ACTION STEP: IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND VOLUNTEERISM SOURCES INCLUDING CORPORATE SERVICE CLUBS, COLLEGES, AND FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** CONDUCT FUNDRAISERS
- STRATEGY 5.3: Bring Services to More Clients PG. 34-37
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** WORK WITH AHS REORGANIZATION TO EXPAND OUT-POSTING INCLUDING NON-TRADITIONAL HOURS
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** IMPROVE AND SIMPLIFY APPLICATION PROCESS AND FORMS ACROSS PROGRAMS TO CREATE REGIONAL EQUITY

- 3. **ACTION STEP:** TRAIN STAFF ON CUSTOMER SERVICE SKILLS
- 4. **ACTION STEP:** DRAFT AHS POLICY FOR SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE TO COORDINATE AND PROVIDE SERVICES TO CHRONICALLY HOMELESS
- 5. **ACTION STEP:** IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP MODELS FOR DAY LABOR
- **STRATEGY 5.4:** PUTTING A FACE ON HOMELESSNESS PG. 37-39
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** IDENTIFY CONSUMER "STORY TELLERS" FOR TESTIMONIALS
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** CREATE FORUMS FOR TESTIMONIALS
 - 3. **ACTION STEP:** PARTNER WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS AND ADVOCACY AGENCIES AROUND PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENTS
- **STRATEGY 5.5:** EDUCATE THE PUBLIC OF THE COST OF CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS PG. 39-40
 - 1. **ACTION STEP:** MAKE CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ISSUE
 - 2. **ACTION STEP:** INCLUDE INFORMATION ON SSI AND CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS IN NEXT ISSUE OF "BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE- HOUSING AND WAGES IN VERMONT"